

Finance Working Group – Meeting 10 12th April 2022 11:00 – 13:00 Virtual Meeting

Attendees

Chairs:

Gerry Kiely, Chair TB Finance Working Group, Michael Cronin, Chair TB Stakeholder Forum;

Farming Organisations:

Paul Smyth, ICMSA; Hugh Farrell, ICSA; Eddie Punch, ICSA; TJ Maher, IFA; Anna Daly, IFA, John Keane, MACRA

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine:

Conor O'Mahony, Aishling Cronin, Gemma O'Malley

Apologies:

Tómas Bourke, IFA; Lorcan McCabe, ICMSA, Patricia Reilly; DAFM

Minutes

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Item	Minutes
Technical Working Group - Update	The Department presented an update on the Technical Working Group. The Valuer Code of Practice has been discussed. The proposed non-compliance process will continue to be grouped into three categories of non-compliance. The proposed structure of the independent panel is an independent chair from Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Ireland, a DAFM Principal Officer grade and a member of the Valuer Association. Constructive conversation on the Valuer Guidelines, amendments/suggestions welcomed and to be submitted before next TWG meeting. It may be necessary to have more than the original proposed four meetings.
	Farming body comments: • No comments DAFM comments: • DAFM to send out latest version of Code of Practice before next meeting.
TB Programme Funding	The Department presented a recap on the TB Funding Programme. There were three documents supplied in advance of the meeting: 1. FWG Costings 2. Costing of new TB policies 3. Financing of the TB Programme The FWG Costings document was discussed. The first five policies discussed were: 1. Pre and Post movement testing 2. Movements into restricted herds 3. Inconclusives 4. Risk of recurrence herds 5. Reducing the risk posed by badgers

Farming body comments:

- Concern over test cost to the farmer; stating that test date moved forward would accommodate DAFM
- IFA requires flexibility regarding movement of tests and a common sense approach
- Concern expressed over selling cull cows at marts for further feeding and test status may act as a barrier
- Query regarding figures, will vets deliver a higher rate of testing?

DAFM comments:

- Implementation will be phased
- While test date can be brought forward it cannot be brought back i.e. can not be longer than 12 months without a test
- Excel sheet to be circulated

Chair comment

- A serious look at the documents and flash out any comments before the next meeting
- Dates for next meetings are 12th May and 9th June 2022